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JOHN PURCELL, of Richmond, Va., was the son of Charles Purcell, of the city of Limerick, Ireland, who, having inherited property in Richmond, by the death of his uncle of the same name, settled there in 1816, dying eight years afterwards. Mr. John Purcell was born in the latter city, May 31st, 1817. He was educated in the schools of Burke and Rennolds, so well known in Richmond at that day, and at the age of fifteen, entered the drug store of Mr. Thompkins. While engaged here, he attracted the attention of Mr. Alexander Duval, the leading wholesale druggist of the time. In 1840, although a very young man, he was offered an interest in Mr. Duval's business, the firm being Duval & Purcell. After some seven or eight years, he left Mr. Duval, and formed the partnership of Purcell, Ladd & Co., of which he was the head until his death.

He married, in 1843, Miss Martha Webb, of Norfolk, Va., whose father was Commodore Thomas Tarlton Webb, of the county of New Kent, and a distinguished officer of the United States Navy. At the breaking out of the late war, he entered most heartily into the cause of the South, and devoted his means and talents to its advancement. He went to Louisville, Ky., foreseeing the needs of the South for medicine, and, through his acquaintance with chemists, procured, on his own account, over \$100,000 worth of medical supplies, which he turned over to the Confederate Government without profit to himself. He also equipped the battery of artillery which bore his name during the war. The affection and esteem shown him by the survivors of this battery attest the service he rendered them. He served also as a member of the Ambulance Corps, composed of gentlemen of Richmond, who, out of their own means, maintained, and by their own work, succored so many sick and wounded soldiers.

He was one of the first members of the Chamber of Commerce, an originator of the Liverpool & Richmond Packet Co., which built at Richmond the fine packet ships for direct trade between that port and England, and was one of the projectors of the Virginia Steamship Co. between New York and Richmond. He took great interest in railroad development, and was a director and vice president of the Richmond & York River R. R. Co., and also of the Richmond & Mecklenburg R. R. Co., and was largely interested in and greatly promoted the building of the Virginia & Tennessee R. R.

Mr. Purcell was, essentially, a merchant of the old school, and took keen delight in the advancement of commercial dignity and probity. His labors were mainly directed in this channel. If any of his virtues stood out more prominently than another, it was his high sense of justice. He had broad and liberal views in all things, and, while firm and courageous in maintaining his own, he was equally tolerant of the views of others. Mr. Purcell died June 29, 1894.

REV. HENRY CARRINGTON ALEXANDER, D.D., was born of Virginian

parents in Princeton, N. J., on the 27th day of Sept., 1835, and died in the city of New York June 25th, 1894, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. He was the son of the Rev. Dr. James W. Alexander, at one time pastor of Village Church, at Charlotte C. H., Virginia, afterwards Professor of *Belles Lettres* in Princeton College; then pastor of the Duane Street Church, New York; then Professor of Church History and Polity in Princeton Seminary; then pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, in which position he died. His mother was a daughter of Dr. George Cabell, of Richmond, and a niece of Judge and Governor William Cabell of the same city, and of Mr. Joseph C. Cabell, the friend of Thomas Jefferson and his co-laborer in founding the University of Virginia, and of the distinguished Dr. James L. Cabell, for fifty years Professor in the Medical Department of the University of Virginia. His grandfather was the Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander, the theologian and author, who was at one time President of Hampden Sidney College, afterwards pastor in the city of Philadelphia, and one of the two founders of Princeton Theological Seminary, where the great work of his life was done. His grandmother, Mrs. Archibald Alexander, was the daughter of Rev. James Waddell, widely known as the blind preacher, whose eloquence has been described in *The British Spy* by William Wirt. His paternal grandparents were both of Scotch-Irish extraction, whose ancestors emigrated first to Pennsylvania and then to Rockbridge county, Va.

Young Alexander graduated from Princeton College in the class of 1854, in the nineteenth year of his age, and from Princeton Seminary in 1858. Having been licensed by the Presbytery of New York, he spent a year in that city doing missionary work, and in 1859 took charge of Village Church, Charlotte, C. H., where both his father and grandfather had labored before him. Here he was ordained and installed as pastor in 1861. He continued in this relation until January, 1870, when, having been elected Professor of Biblical Literature and New Testament Interpretation in Union Theological Seminary, Virginia, he entered on this chair, which he filled until his peremptory resignation in 1891. He then took charge of the churches of Oakland, Md., and Terra Alta, West Virginia, where he continued to labor until his death. Dr. Alexander was a man of great learning, of the kindest sympathies and of charming manners.

WILLIAM CECIL DABNEY, M. D., late Professor of the Practice of Medicine and Obstetrics in the University of Virginia, was born at Dunlora, Albemarle county, Virginia, July 4, 1849. His early education was received at home from private tutors. He entered the University of Virginia in 1866, and pursued the study of medicine for two years, graduating with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1868. His first service was as resident physician in a hospital in Baltimore for a year. In 1869 he married Miss Jane Belle Minor, daughter of Mr. William W.